

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
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DRAFTED BY EA/ANP: TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
EA/ANP:EHURWITZ
S/S: LRFLEISCHER

-----047657 190528Z /15

R 180406Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 070307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, AS

SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT REGIONAL MEETING

REF: STATE 053454, MAR 2

1. AMBASSADOR IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER
FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER FRASER: QUOTE:

2. DEAR MALCOLM: I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER
OF FEBRUARY 27 CONCERNING THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT REGIONAL MEETING IN SYDNEY. IT IS CLEAR FROM
YOUR DETAILED ACCOUNT THAT THE MEETING PROVIDED AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR A VERY USEFUL EXAMINATION OF SOME OF THE
MAJOR WORLD ISSUES TODAY. LET ME REITERATE OUR STRONG
SUPPORT FOR THIS SORT OF REGIONAL COOPERATION.

3. I WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO NOTE THAT THE HEADS OF
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GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED CONSULTATIVE GROUPS ON TRADE,
ENERGY, TERRORISM, AND ILLICUT DRUGS. I ATTACH PARTICULAR
IMPORTANCE TO REDUCING TRADE BARRIERS, AND SHARE THE
CONCERN EXPRESSED AT THE MEETING FOR IMPROVED MARKET
ACCESS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

4. YOU CORRECTLY NOTED MY GREAT PERSONAL INTEREST IN

THE PROBLEM OF ENERGY. DURING MY VISIT TO INDIA, I DISCUSSED THE ENERGY PROBLEM WITH MORARJI DESAI AND I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT INDIA IS TAKING A LEADING ROLE IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM ON A REGIONAL BASIS. WITH DIMINISHING FOSSIL FUEL RESOURCES, WE MUST PUT GREATER EMPHASIS ON DEVELOPING MORE PERMANENT ENERGY SOURCES. I AM GLAD THAT THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP WORKING ON THIS ISSUE WILL BE CONSIDERING A NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVES, EACH OF WHICH CAN MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A RELIABLE ENERGY MIX.

5. REGIONAL COOPERATION IS THE MOST PROMISING WAY TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM AND ILLICIT DRUGS. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE RESULTS OF THE GROUPS WORKING ON THESE TOPICS. WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST IN THIS OR ANY OTHER AREA IN WHICH WE MIGHT MAKE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

6. I AM DELIGHTED THAT FRITZ MONDALE WILL BE VISITING CANBERRA NEXT MONTH. I HOPE YOU WILL BRIEF HIM FULLY ON THE SYDNEY MEETING WHEN HE CALLS ON YOU. HE WILL WANT TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU ON A NUMBER OF GLOBAL ISSUES, ABOVE ALL, ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HORN, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA -- AS WELL AS PROBLEMS OF MORE IMMEDIATE CONCERN TO SOUTHEAST ASIA. HE ALSO WILL WANT TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC ISSUES OF SPECIAL RELEVANCE TO THE PACIFIC BASIN COUNTRIES ON HIS ITINERARY, WITH
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EMPHASIS ON FOOD, ENERGY, AND TRADE PROBLEMS.
WARMEST REGARDS, SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER END QUOTE.

7. SIGNED ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED TO POST FOR DELIVERY. VANCE

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